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Subject: Re: unformatted strings (reading)  
Posted by [David Foster](#) on Wed, 07 Feb 1996 08:00:00 GMT  
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immel@gi.alaska.edu (Thomas Immel) wrote:

>  
>  
> Here's a question for anyone who reads unformatted strings.  
> Is there a way to read a whole ,say 10 character, string at once  
> in IDL? Here's what is happening to me.  
>  
>  
>  
> Thomas Immel  
> Immel@geewiz.gi.alaska.edu  
>

If you know the length of the string you want to read, you can  
always do something like:

```
openw, 5, 'test'  
writeu, 5, 'Whatever'  
free_lun, 5  
openr, 5, 'test'  
s = string( replicate(32B, 8) ) ; String of 8 spaces  
readu, 5, s  
free_lun, 5  
print, s  
Whatever
```